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Monday, January 14, 2013

EID-Ohio: Quick look at key facts on the Portage Co. methane case left out of TODAY show (1/11)

EID-National: 2012 saw largest year-to-year jump in U.S. oil production in history – and shale is why (1/11)

NATIONAL

Industry calls foul on EPA Pavillion extension. National Review. "There are more federal agencies criticizing the EPA's work in Pavillion than defending it, and there's mounting evidence that the agency's poorly drilled monitoring wells tainted the very groundwater it was trying to sample," said Simon Lomax, Denver-based director of Energy In Depth. NOTE: EID also featured in Gas Business Briefing (sub req'd) and Rigzone. Associated Press and Reuters also report.

Vitter: USGS Says Hydraulic Fracturing is Safe in Fayetteville. Electric Light & Power. U.S. Senators David Vitter (R-La.) and John Boozman (R-Ark.) made the following statements regarding news from the completed U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) study that examined the water quality of 127 shallow domestic wells in the Fayetteville Shale natural gas production area of Arkansas and found no groundwater contamination associated with gas production.

HF huge reason for drop in GHGs. Minneapolis Star Tribune, Column. You can make a reasonable argument that fracking, or hydraulic fracturing -- the process of springing gas and oil from previously impenetrable rock formations -- has done more than any other policy or technology in the last few years to slow the production of greenhouse gases.

Gov. Cuomo on the spot as NY considers Marcellus. Washington Times. With nearby states cashing in but environmentalists and Hollywood stars urging him to back off, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo is running out of time to decide whether his state will join the natural-gas fracking boom.

Lennon's Widow Raises Her Voice Against HF. New York Times. Ms. Ono — along with her son, Sean Lennon, who came with her — has a personal connection to the issue. She and her husband, John Lennon, bought a farm in the Catskills, and she and Sean want to prevent the drilling, also known as fracking, near that property, and everywhere else. NOTE: New York Daily News also reports.

HF Boom. Salt Lake Tribune, API LTE. As a result of investments in safe shale gas technology ... people are working and communities are again thriving. Repeated tests have shown that hydraulic fracturing in thousands of wells protects water supplies, and state and federal tests have found no groundwater contamination.

'Fracking' success sparking talk of oil shale boom. The Hill. An oil boom launched by "fracking" has led energy leaders to take a second look at harnessing the potential of oil shale, a fossil fuel that energy firms largely abandoned the hope of harnessing in the 1980s.

Some confusion in Eagle Ford over overtime pay. E&E News (sub req'd). "Marcellus Shale Coalition member companies are absolutely committed to complying with all local, state and federal wage and employment laws and regulations. As our industry continues to create literally tens of thousands of new jobs for Pennsylvanians, we are also committed to holding contractors to these standards," said Travis Windle, MSC spokesman.

FRACKNATION

FrackNation: Powerful Response to Anti-Fracking Hysteria. Big Hollywood. When a film offers a free-market perspective on the most controversial energy production technique in the country and still gets sterling reviews from Variety and the New York Times, it must be good. In fact, "FrackNation" isn't just good. It's excellent.

PROMISED LAND

OPEC Goes Hollywood With Croc-u-drama. Forbes. Natural gas infiltration issues aside, the fracking industry continues to encounter objections from activist environmental organizations that challenge the technology. Yet the process has been used

successfully without a single documented case of site contamination over more than 60 years. More recent techniques apply horizontal drilling to extend operations into adjacent underground deposits.

INTERNATIONAL

EID's Tom Shepstone talks HF on Belgian TV. Belgian Television. EID's Tom Shepstone walks through the hydraulic fracturing process and the development of the Marcellus shale.

Poland to press on with shale gas. Associated Press, Q&A. Poland will likely adopt a much-awaited law to regulate shale gas production this year, opening the way for the potentially lucrative sector to kick into gear, Treasury Minister Mikolaj Budzanowski said Friday. NOTE: Washington Post and The Nation also report.

Cuadrilla Parent Confirms Talks over UK Shale. Rigzone. AJ Lucas, the Australian owner of UK-based shale gas specialist Cuadrilla Resources, confirmed Monday that it is discussions with a number of parties regarding the future development of the Bowland Basin in Lancashire, England. However, the company added that the discussions were at a "preliminary stage" and that it was not in a position to advise whether any agreement will result from them.

French utility GDF Suez says keen to export US shale. Creamer Media's Mining Weekly. GDF Suez, Europe's biggest utility, is keen to export American shale gas and hopes the Obama administration will soon deliver licenses to export the gas, GDF Suez CE Gerard Mestrallet said on Friday.

CALIFORNIA

Graves: New revolution in America called hydraulic fracturing. Ventura County Star. John Graves of Ventura is a writer and author. His book "Fracking, America's Alternative Energy Revolution" will be released Wednesday.

ILLINOIS

Illinois' HF future fractured. Chicago Tribune. Horizontal hydraulic fracturing has opened up vast reserves of natural gas deposits in the U.S. that until now were impossible to tap.

Film discussion addresses HF in Illinois. Glen Ellyn Patch. Fracking has received prominent attention recently as the film Promised Land featuring Matt Damon and John Krasinski puts the focus on the controversial practice of releasing natural gas.

NORTH CAROLINA

Don't sign the wrong HF petition. Forbes. I came out of a movie theater the other night and ran into a group who wanted me to sign a petition to stop all fracking in North Carolina. Now, I certainly don't want to add environmental risk to our landscape and drinking water, but the problem is that this petition demands the wrong thing.

HF is a short-sighted solution. Daily Tar Heel, LTE. In a time when unemployment was a deciding factor in something as monumental as a presidential election, it's no wonder that the prospect of job growth gleans appeal from people concerned with the state of the economy.

NORTHEAST

NY activists oppose HF. Associated Press. As Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration nears completion of regulations that could lift a 4½-year-old ban on shale-gas drilling in New York, opposition groups have ramped up efforts to persuade the governor to say "no" to fracking.

Story lowballed amount of HFopponents. Post Standard, LTE. The Jan. 10 Post-Standard has a grossly unfair and unbalanced report on an anti-hydrofracking rally that took place in Albany on Jan. 9 on the occasion of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's State of the State speech.

Fourth-graders have concluded HF's bad. Times Herald-Record. "Fracking is very bad for the earth," wrote 9-year-old Danielle Vanderkooy, a fourth-grader at Maple Hill Elementary School in Middletown. On Thursday, the students discussed their essays on the subject.

OHIO

Energy companies looking for locals to join work force. Canton Repository. "That's directly tied to development of the Utica shale," said Dan Alfaro, spokesman for Energy In Depth, an industry trade group. Drivers, welders, diesel mechanics and other trades are in high demand by oil companies, said Rhonda L. Reda, executive director for the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program. She expects to see wages rise for workers in those trades as the oil industry competes with other businesses for their talents. Jobs will be going to local workers in the areas where wells have been drilled, Reda said.

Linking land use and economic growth in cities and farmland. Farm & Dairy. Shawn Bennett, field director for Energy in Depth, said the average oil and gas industry job pays about \$66,000 a year. That includes jobs like truckers, welders, etc. The industry also is having a positive effect on restaurants and hotels, and automobile dealerships.

EPA must get HF test right. Plain Dealer, Editorial. Ohioans appreciate the money that the shale boom has brought and its potential to revive the state's manufacturing economy, but they also need to know whether drilling is safe for the environment and whether it can be made safer still. The questions raised can be resolved only by a hard look in the real world.

Dearing Compressor Plans Another Plant Expansion. Youngstown Business Journal. "You now have natural gas at low prices with a stable forecast over time, so that manufacturers want to come back," Portman said. "This is because this energy supply is going to be here."

Businessman poised to benefit from shale gas boom under way. Salem News. Ed Yasechko believes he knows an opportunity when he sees it, and the Hubbard-based businessman believes the area north of town on state Route 45 is poised to benefit from the shale gas boom under way in the region.

TEXAS

Halliburton, Apache develop natural gas as fuel for hydraulic fracturing. Houston Business Journal. The project uses 12 pumps, producing 24,000 horsepower, and is one of the largest-scale dual-fuel projects in the industry, according to a Friday statement from Halliburton.

Eagle Ford gives region a shot in the wallet. San Antonio Express. The Eagle Ford Shale is turning out to be more than an oil boom. It's also a shot in the wallet, pulling up personal income in counties across the region — some of the poorest in the state.

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